DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE BILL ANALYSIS

AMENDMENT DATE: Original BILL NUMBER: SB 1637
POSITION: Neutral AUTHOR: T. Torlakson

RELATED BILLS: AB 764, AB 939

BILL SUMMARY: California Technology Assistance Project Extension

This bill would extend the sunset date for the California Technology Assistance Project (CTAP) and the Statewide Educational Technology Services (SETS) program from January 1, 2009 to January 1, 2018.

FISCAL SUMMARY

The Governor's Budget proposes trailer bill language to extend the sunset date until January 1, 2010, and continues funding (\$16,471,000 Proposition 98 General Fund) for the program. Since the Administration proposed a one-year extension, this bill would technically cost \$16,471,000 Proposition 98 General fund in 2009-10 and annually through 2016-17. Finance notes that the cost of this program for 2008-09 is included in the Governor's Budget.

COMMENTS

The Department of Finance is neutral on this bill because it is consistent with the Administration's policy of extending the current program for additional time.

Current law authorizes: (1) CTAP, which consists of 11 regional technical assistance consortia that assist local education agencies with information technology in areas such as, but not limited to, professional development, electronic learning resources, hardware, telecommunications infrastructure, aid with record keeping related to pupil instruction, support for funding, aid for high speed telecommunications access, and support with planning for rural and underserved areas; and (2) SETS—services provided by the State Department of Education in the areas including, but not limited to, reviewing electronic learning resources for alignment with state content standards, professional development for data-driven decision making, integrating technology into standards based curriculum, technology planning, operations and maintenance and access to training and support for technical professionals from schools.

The Governor vetoed an alternate bill, AB 764, which would have not only extended the sunset date for five years but also would have codified various requirements, that are purported to be the current practices but none-the-less would have likely created Proposition 98 General Fund cost pressures and/or a state mandate (requiring local education agencies to conduct what are now voluntary practices), which raised fiscal concerns. This bill no longer contains the previously objectionable provisions of AB 764.

AB 939 is also a related bill which previously proposed extending the sunset date on the program. The bill died in the house of origin.

Analyst/Principal (0330) M. Aguilera	Date	Program Budget Manager Jeannie Oropeza	Date
Department Deputy Di	rector		Date
Governor's Office:	By:	Date:	Position Approved Position Disapproved
BILL ANALYSIS			Form DF-43 (Rev 03/95 Buff)

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T. Torlakson				Original		SB	1637
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